

## Asbury Theological Seminary ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange

---

Syllabi

eCommons

---

1-1-2005

# CL 551 The Mission of the Free Methodist Church

Donald E. Demaray

Follow this and additional works at: <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi>

---

### Recommended Citation

Demaray, Donald E., "CL 551 The Mission of the Free Methodist Church" (2005). *Syllabi*. Book 1279.  
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi/1279>

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the eCommons at ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. For more information, please contact [thad.horner@asburyseminary.edu](mailto:thad.horner@asburyseminary.edu).

**SYLLABUS**  
**CL 551 The Mission of the Free Methodist Church**  
**2 hours**

**Donald E. Demaray, Professor**

**Catalog description: “A study of the mission of the Free Methodist Church, giving special attention to its history, distinctive character, current issues, and local and international organization. Student involvement and consideration of the texture of the denomination will be encouraged through lectures, discussions, special speakers, surveys, and research projects. Offered alternate years.” Required of Free Methodist students for ordination and/or scholarships.**

**Meeting time: Spring term, Fridays 12:30-2:15 p.m.**

- Students will**
- 1) learn the historical dynamics of the FMC and see how her motivations play out in the varied facets of the Church – evangelism, polity, education, international service, discipleship, social application of the Gospel, etc.;**
  - 2) become aware of the issues in contemporary Free Methodism – perspectives of educators and pastors, church planting, worship styles, money, purity of morals, pastoral and lay perspectives, etc.;**
  - 3) capture a 21<sup>st</sup> century vision of the mission of the Free Methodist Church;**
  - 4) advance in knowledge about how to lead people to Christ-like living;**
  - 5) become aware of the significant literature of the Free Methodist Church;**
  - 6) gain a firsthand knowledge of current Free Methodist leaders and their understanding of the Church.**

### **Implementation of course expectations:**

- 1) To get a view of the dynamics of the Church in historical context, read David L. McKenna, *A Future with A History* and the other textbooks.**
- 2) Readings and class discussions will contribute to coming to grips with the second course aim.**
- 3) Vision-casting skills and awareness will accumulate as we expose ourselves to denominational leaders, examine the literature, and dialog in and out of the classroom setting.**
- 4) Christ-like living has always been at the heart of Free Methodism. Here we shall examine the spiritual disciplines, using John Wesley's five means of grace as our launch pad for advancing learning and enhancing our commitment.**
- 5) We will expose ourselves to the rich bibliography of the FM Church.**
- 6) To achieve the sixth goal, we will engage denominational and local church leaders to address the class, both here in Wilmore and at FMC HDQ, Indianapolis. We will explore the possibility of attending the second Annual conference on the "Search for the Free Methodist Soul" in Indianapolis, March 14-15.**

**How to contact the professor: Phone: 859-858-3239**

**Email: donald\_demaray@asbury  
seminary.edu.**

**SPO 911**

## **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

**McKenna, David L., *A Future with A History*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 1997.**

**Marston, Leslie R., *From Age to Age A Living Witness*. Winona Lake, IN: Light and Life Communications, 1997 reprint.**

**Roberts, B. T., *The Daily Roberts: Readings for Every Day in The Year from the Writings of B. T. Roberts*. Donald E. Demaray, editor. Indianapolis: Light and Life Press, 1996.**

***The Book of Discipline 2003*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 2004.**

**NB: Readings will be reported at the close of the course; pages beyond the required textbooks and assignments will count toward lifting your grade.**

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- 1) Attendance: Please organize your calendar to attend each session. When absences become essential (funeral, illness, etc.), please confer with the professor.**
- 2) Reading: Assigned textbooks and other assignments.**
- 3) Look on your computer at [www.freemethodistchurch.org](http://www.freemethodistchurch.org). with links to get a picture of current FMC ministries both domestically and internationally.**
- 4) For those who have not met the History and Polity course requirement, please do an eight to 10 page paper, addressing the beginnings of the Free Methodist Church and the organizational structure of the denomination.**

**Put into finished, typed form, following accepted format in such a guide book as Campbell, Ballou and Slade, *Form and Style: Theses, Reports, Term Papers*.**

**5) For those not doing the History and Polity paper, choose a topic such as:**

**\*The Current World Mission Program of the Denomination: Methods and Issues.**

**\*B. T. Roberts, Founder of the FMC.**

**\*Free Methodist Colleges, Beginnings and Current Status.**

**\*The Day School Movement of Free Methodism.**

**\*John Wesley, Father of the Methodist Movement.**

**\*Cross Ethnic FM Churches in North America.**

**\*The Role of the Local FM Pastor.**

**NB: These suggestions appear here in generalized form. Once you have decided on a broad topic, zero in on a manageable segment of the subject or paint your picture in broad strokes. E.g., suppose you choose to research and write about world missions. You might take three countries, examine the cultural challenges in each, compare and contrast the culturally adjusted missional methodologies and show growth patterns; or paint in broad strokes the philosophy of the World Mission program of the FMC. Submit your paper following guidelines in such a stylebook as Campbell, Ballou, and Slade, *Form and Style: Theses, Reports, Term Papers*.**

**Feel free to choose a topic not listed above, a topic of your own choosing. (Please discuss with professor.)**

**Each student will present his or her findings from the research on a day scheduled in advance. In this way the class benefits from the research of every researcher. Feel free to use handouts, overhead, Power Point, whatever you feel comfortable with in presentation.**

#### **COURSE SCHEDULE:**

**Friday 11 February: Orientation and syllabus.  
Scheduling student reports.  
Scheduling the trip to Indianapolis.  
(The denomination will help pay  
our way.)**

**Friday 18 February – 13 May provides opportunity to come to grips with the varied ministry expressions of the denomination such as pastoral leadership, women in ministry, chaplaincy, world missionary enterprise, social services, media, ethnic ministries, leadership development, youth, the Marston Historical Center, etc.**

**FINAL EXAM DAY: Reports due. Review of course learnings.**

**GRADING: Each assignment will be rewarded on the basis of a 10 point scale, 10 = A, 9 = A-, etc. All grades for each student will be averaged to determine the final grade. Items for grading include attendance, term papers, class participation, oral and written reports, etc.**

## SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bastian, Donald, *Belonging*. Winona Lake, IN: Light and Life Press, 1986.

*Book of Discipline 2003*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 2004.

Demaray, Donald E., *Snapshots: The People Called Free Methodist*. Winona Lake, IN: Light and Life Press, 1985.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Basic Beliefs*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Press, 1992.

Ford, George L., *Like a Tree Planted: The Life Story of Leslie Ray Marston*. Winona Lake, IN: Light and Life Press, 1985.

Hogue, Wilson T., *History of the Free Methodist Church of North America*. 2 vv. Chicago: Free Methodist Publishing House, 1915.

Howland, Carl L., *The Story of our Church*. Winona Lake, IN: The Free Methodist Publishing House, 1939.

Marston, Leslie R., *From Age to Age A Living Witness*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 1997 reprint.

McKenna, David L., *A History with A Future: The Wesleyan Witness of the Free Methodist Church..* Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Wesleyan Leadership in Troubled Times: Confronting the Culture, Challenging the Church*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2002.

Roberts, B. T., *First Lessons on Money*. Rochester, NY: 1886.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Fishers of Men: Practical Hints to Those Who would Win Souls*. Winona Lake: Light and Life Press, 1948 reprint.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Living Truths*. E. D. Riggs, ed. Winona Lake, IN: Light and Life Press, 1960.

\_\_\_\_\_, *The Daily Roberts: Excerpts for Every Day of the Year*. Donald E. Demaray, ed., Indianapolis: Light and Life, 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Ordaining Women*. Indianapolis: Light and Life reprint.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Why Another Sect?* Rochester, NY: The Earnest Christian Publishing House, 1878.

Snyder, Howard, B. T. Roberts biography to be published by Eerdmans of Grand Rapids, MI. Xeroxed copy available from Dr. Snyder on our Seminary campus.

Zahniser, Clarence Howard, *Ernest Christian: Life and Works of Benjamin Titus Roberts*. Centerville, OH: Advocate Publishing House, 1957.

For further bibliographical help, see

*Discipleship Resource Guide*. Indianapolis: Light and Life Communications, 2001. Lists books, pamphlets, videos, brochures, etc. on every phase of the denomination's ministry.

Snyder, Howard, upcoming biography of B. T. Roberts.

Walls, Francine E., *The Free Methodist Church: A Bibliography*. Winona Lake, IN: Free Methodist Historical Society, 1977.